

RESOLUTION NO.

Re: ADOPTING THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATURE'S GROUNDWATER SUBCOMMITTEE FOR A WATER PROTECTION PLAN INCLUDING A NATURAL RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP POLICY

Legislators LAFRANCE and SWARTZ offer the following and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, Chairman Brad Kendall created the Dutchess County Legislature's Groundwater Subcommittee in January 2004, and

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Subcommittee has worked since February 2004 gathering numerous documents, taking substantial testimony, and drafting interim recommendations to coincide with the Legislature's 2005 County budget review as its members have worked towards a plan to protect our County drinking water, and

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Subcommittee's members have come to realize that such plan must begin with good policy and be multi-faceted with perpetual, substantial, and consistent support and commitment from all branches of County government, and

WHEREAS, said Subcommittee further realizes that Plan components and those administering the Plan must be flexible and fluid to provide the best protection for our County water supply and County residents, and

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Subcommittee recommends that the County policy with respect to our water resources be one that expressly:

provides that the County will be a steward of its water resources and consider all impacts on said resources in its planning and decision-making on a watershed by watershed basis,

acknowledges and adopts the primary goal of the former Water Supply Protection Committee to work towards the goal of ensuring the availability of adequate quantities of high quality water supplies now and in the future to enable the County to support well-managed growth, through better understanding, protection, management, and use of the County's resources,

recognizes that a cooperative effort between the County and its towns, villages, and residents is needed to provide for sufficient protection of our water resources,

endorses such inter-municipal cooperation through specific water protection initiatives,

allows and provides for diligence and flexibility in water resource protection to keep pace with the technical and legal issues concerning water protection efforts, and

recognizes that, in the long run, economic sustainability depends on ecological sustainability, and

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Subcommittee provides the annexed recommendations and exhibits as initial County Groundwater Protection Plan components, and

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Subcommittee recommends that the Plan be reassessed and reevaluated by a subcommittee of the Legislature working with the County Water Supply Protection Committee on an annual basis, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Dutchess County Legislature hereby adopts the natural resource stewardship policy as set forth herein and the annexed Final Recommendations with exhibits from the Groundwater Subcommittee, which are annexed hereto, as the 2005 Dutchess County Water Protection Plan.

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Dutchess have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 11th day of October, 2005, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Legislature this 11th day of October, 2005.

PATRICIA J. HOHMANN, CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE